

Cave Swallow Project: Pre/Post Test

1. Of the approximately 1,900 known species in North America, the cave swallow remains the only bird whose winter range is still unknown.
☐ True
☐ False
2. Because Mexican free-tailed bats and cave swallows both eat moths, Carlsbad Caverns National Park is conducting a study to determine if there are difficulties with the two species sharing the entrance to Carlsbad Cavern.
☐ True
☐ False
3. Scientists theorize that the bat population at Carlsbad Cavern began to decline in 1966 because two nesting pairs of cave swallows arrived at Carlsbad Cavern and made their nests just inside the entrance.
☐ True
☐ False
4. The cave swallow's nest, like that of the cliff swallow, is fully enclosed.
☐ True
☐ False
5. The summer colony at Carlsbad Cavern is one of the largest and northern-most colonies of swallows in the United States.
☐ True
☐ False
6. In the United States, cave swallows are found _____.
☐ throughout the country
☐ mainly in parts of Texas, New Mexico and Florida
☐ only as an accidental species following southern storms
☐ throughout the country where caves are located
☐ only in Carlsbad Caverns National Park
7. Approximately, how many species of organisms are currently classified?
☐ 500,000
☐ 1,000,000
☐ 2,000,000
☐ 45,000,000
☐ 100,000,000

8. Species are often classified as being more closely related based on _____.
☐ color
☐ size
☐ similarities with other species
☐ a varying set of characteristics which could include all or none of the preceding answers
☐ none of the above
9. How many words are in a scientific name?
☐ two
☐ varies according to the class of the species
☐ varies according to the order of the species
☐ varies according to the family of the species
☐ varies with the species itself
10. A dichotomous key is used _____.
☐ to help determine the habitat a species can be found in
☐ to help determine key behavior trait
☐ to determine which classification scheme should be used for each species
☐ to help identify a species
☐ only as a last resort
11. The study of behavior is called _____.
☐ behaviorology
☐ ecology
☐ ethology
☐ mycology
☐ psychology
12. When studying behavior at a bird's nest site, it is important to be unobtrusive because _____.
☐ the observer's actions may change, at least temporarily, the bird's behaviors
☐ excessive human activity may cause abandonment of the site
☐ human activity may increase the threat of predators
☐ the above choices are all reasons
☐ a trusting relationship can be established between the bird and the intruder
13. The study of interspecific behavior _____.
☐ is important to know how species interact with each other
☐ is important because it demonstrates that species are not impacted by the behavior of other species
☐ is important because it confirms the theory that species behavior is all instinctive; and therefore, cannot be changed
☐ explains how individuals of the same species interact with each other
☐ has been almost exhausted due to the vast number of bird-watchers
14. Cave swallows are recent colonizers from _____.

- ☐ Mexico
 - ☐ Jamaica
 - ☐ the West Indies
 - ☐ Mexico and Jamaica
 - ☐ Mexico and the West Indies
15. Which is a possible reason for recent northward cave swallow expansion?
- ☐ humans changing the environment, opening up new habitats
 - ☐ a regular expansion into new territory
 - ☐ less competition from other species
 - ☐ all of the above are possible reasons
 - ☐ the first and third reasons only
16. Christmas Count surveys are done _____.
- ☐ to survey threatened/endangered species
 - ☐ to monitor early winter bird populations
 - ☐ to monitor nesting populations
 - ☐ to survey numbers and varieties of game birds
 - ☐ because limited foliage makes it is easier to observe behavior
17. Cave swallows feed primarily on _____.
- ☐ cave crickets
 - ☐ ground and flying insects
 - ☐ other species of vertebrates
 - ☐ flying insects
 - ☐ seeds
18. It is important to take complete field notes because _____.
- ☐ if any item is omitted from the field notes, the National Park Service will not accept them
 - ☐ they will become your primary source of information on the observations
 - ☐ they may include information you don't need at present but will become necessary at a later date
 - ☐ second and third answers
 - ☐ all of the above
19. Bird behavior will vary according to _____.
- ☐ time of year
 - ☐ time of day
 - ☐ interaction with other species
 - ☐ the first three choices
 - ☐ only the second and third choices

20. Two species that are similar in appearance (to us) are said to be _____.
☐ relatives
☐ genetically similar
☐ phenotypically similar
☐ distantly related and probably in different genus
☐ not separate species, but different races of the same species
21. Calls and songs given in a colony _____.
☐ establish territory
☐ warn of predators in the area
☐ serve a social function
☐ may establish territory, may warn of predators and may serve a social function
☐ are almost always similar to those of other species living in the area
22. When cave swallows occur on the eastern coast of the United States during the fall, their appearance is probably due to _____.
☐ an increase in predators in the Caribbean Sea
☐ new food sources that occur in the fall
☐ dispersal caused by hurricanes
☐ movement from colonies in the American Southwest
☐ unusually mild temperatures
23. Cave swallows have been found in _____.
☐ New Mexico, Oklahoma, Florida and New Jersey
☐ New Mexico, Oklahoma and Florida
☐ New Mexico and Texas only
☐ New Mexico, Texas, Florida and New Jersey
24. Which of the following are likely to impact species and individual totals on a Christmas Count?
☐ the weather
☐ the number of counters
☐ the rainfall during the previous growing season
☐ the expertise of the counters
☐ all the choices above
25. Collisions between cave swallows and bats are _____.
☐ usually fatal
☐ almost always harmful, if not fatal
☐ rare
☐ more damaging to the bats
☐ more damaging to the cave swallows

Cave Swallow Project: Pre/Post-Test Key

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